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By:

[Signature]

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Hooper, et al.

SERIAL No.: 09/938,439

FILED: August 23, 2001

FOR: **MULTIPLE-SITE SAMPLE-HANDLING
APPARATUS AND METHOD**

EXAMINER: Unknown

ART UNIT: 1743

5/A
CA.
5/8/02

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

AMENDMENT

In the Specification:

On page 1, please replace the paragraph starting on line 4 with the following:

[Handwritten line]
This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application for Multiple-Site Reaction Device and Method, Serial No. 09/788,209, filed Feb. 16, 2001, now pending; which claims the priority of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/183,626, filed February 18, 2000, now abandoned, which are both incorporated herein by reference in their entirety [Handwritten line]

AM